

wherein said converging means converges said light flux as  
a spot with a smaller diameter and performs aberration correction  
at said spot by employing a larger one of said numerical  
apertures, with respect to one of said optical discs having a  
thinner one of said first layers, and

wherein a thickness of each of said first layers of said N  
type of optical discs is about 1.2mm or less;

(b) a signal processing apparatus including:

signal processing means, responsive to one of (i) a  
reproduction signal, corresponding to said information signal,  
from said photo detecting means and (ii) receipt of recording  
data, corresponding to said information signal, for recording on  
said disk, for generating an output signal corresponding to said  
information signal for performing one of a reproducing operation  
and a recording operation; and

system controlling means coupled to said signal processing  
means for controlling generation of the output signal of said  
signal processing means.

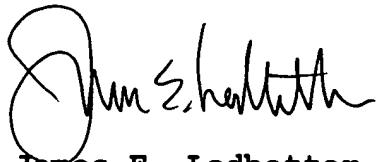
#### REMARKS

At the outset, the Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy shown to them and their attorney during a personal interview on August 2, 2000. During this interview, the above amendments to the claims were discussed, with the exception of new claim 35.

In addition to the claim amendments, this Preliminary Amendment makes formal changes to the drawings and specification. The changes to Figs. 4A and 4B correspond to drawing changes in the parent reissue application and are supported by the originally filed specification of the present continuation reissue application which refers to respective focal distances FD and working distances WD" of Figs. 4A and 4B. The specification has been amended to correct typographical errors in the original patent.

Entry of the above amendments and early and favorable consideration of this application in the form of a Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
Registration No. 28,732

Date: August 25, 2000

JEL/att

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. JEL 28567RE-D  
STEVENS, DAVIS, MILLER & MOSHER, L.L.P.  
1615 L Street, NW, Suite 850  
P.O. Box 34387  
Washington, DC 20043-4387  
Telephone: (202) 408-5100  
Facsimile: (202) 408-5200